

# The Bristol Jewish Recorder



## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

HAROLD SEYMOUR  
BETTE BURKE  
SAM SILVERMAN

All communications to

59 The Dell,  
Westbury-on-Trym.

Published on the 1st of every  
month. Material to arrive on the  
24th of the month preceding.

. . . . . OCTOBER, 1971 . . . . . TISHRI 5732 . . . . .

## BRISTOL HEBREW CONGREGATION THE SYNAGOGUE, PARK ROW, BRISTOL

### Synagogue Services:

Friday Evenings 7.30 p.m.  
Saturday Mornings 10.0 a.m.

### Minister:

Rev. M. Modell,  
66 Harcourt Road,  
Bristol 6.  
Tel.: 40615

### Hon. Sec.

Mr. I. Kushner,  
37, Long Eaton Drive,  
Whitchurch,  
Bristol, 4.  
Tel: Whitchurch 3576

Talmud Torah Classes: Sunday mornings  
10.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m.

Hon. Sec. Mrs. M. Kushner,  
37, Long Eaton Drive,  
Whitchurch,  
Bristol, 4.  
Tel: Whitchurch 3576

### Bristol Jewish Ladies' Guild:

Hon. Sec. Mrs. C. Culank,  
113, Hags Head Hill,  
St. George,  
Bristol, 5.

### Bristol W.I.Z.O. Group:

Hon. Sec. Mrs. S. Hart,  
9, Pitch & Pay Lane,  
Bristol.  
BS9 1NH

Both Ladies' Organisations  
hold regular meetings and  
functions throughout the year.

## *for your diary . . .*

Monday, 18th October  
Evening Meeting  
Ladies Guild.

Wednesday, 20th October  
Jumble Sale

Tuesday, 26th October  
W.I.Z.O. Evening  
Meeting

YAHREZITS

Tuesday	12th October	Mr. D. Cohen	23 Tishri
Wednesday	13th October	Mrs. Symons	24 Tishri
Friday	15th October	Mr. S. Bloom	26 Tishri
Friday	29th October	Mrs. R. Ring	10 Cheshvan
Wednesday	3rd November	Mr. M.B. Silverman	15 Cheshvan

KADDISH WILL BE SAID THE PREVIOUS EVENING

The Memorial Prayer (El Mole Rachamin) will be recited by the Minister during the Reading of the Law, on the Sabbath prior to the Yahrzeit, in the presence of the bereaved.

\*\*\*\*\*

COMMUNAL NOTICES

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

We are sorry to learn of the indisposition of Mr. Lou Cohen, who is in Ham Green Hospital. He has since had an operation, from which we are pleased to report, he is making a successful recovery. We wish him well, and hope to see him back in circulation soon. Additional best wishes from the "Poker School", who are anxious to see his money circulating also !

\*\*\*\*\*

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Herman Cambell, an old Member, and a member of one of Bristol's oldest families. Although not active where he would be noticed, in office, Herman was a consistent attender at Synagogue Services. He had a hard working life, and a physical disability, but was never heard to complain, and had a dry sense of humour. A "working man" in the true sense, and not by any standard well paid, Herman was a provider for his two Sisters. Our sincere Condolences to Hetty and Clara. We wish them both "Long Life".

\*\*\*\*\*

Hetty and Clara Cambell wish to thank the Minister, the Chevra Kedusha, relatives and friends for their help and messages of Sympathy, on the recent sad loss of their Brother Herman.

\*\*\*\*\*

Bristol Habonim's first meeting of the New Year will take place at the Synagogue Hall, Park Row, on the 10th of October. Subsequent meetings will take place fortnightly, thus October 24th, November 8th etc.

PLEASE NOTE NEW TIMES OF MEETINGS !!!!!

CHOTRIM: (for those aged 11 - 14): 2.30 - 5.30 p.m.

AMELIM: (for those aged 7 - 11): 4.00 - 5.30 p.m.

GURIM: (for those aged  $4\frac{1}{2}$  - 7) : 4.00 - 5.30 p.m.

We hope by these new arrangements to be able to give each group the attention it deserves, and that the changes will not inconvenience the Va'ad Leman.

We wish all our chaverim and their parents a very happy New Year.

chag same'ach ulehitraot,

Va'ad Ken Bristol Habonim

(signed) H.B. Newman, mazkir.

\*\*\*\*\*

September Lottery deservedly won by Henry Springer.

\*\*\*\*\*

Jumble Sale W.I.S.O. Wednesday, 20th October. All jumble to Synagogue House.

\*\*\*\*\*

EMBROIDERY

CROCHETING

DRESSMAKING

Mrs. June Charles and Mrs. Ruth Curwen will be holding a class, open to all ladies of the community, for instruction in embroidery, crocheting and dressmaking. The class will be held at 77, Parry's Lane on Mondays from 1.45 - 3.45 p.m. A charge will be made and the proceeds will go to a charity, to be chosen by the group. The first meeting is on Monday, 25th October.

\*\*\*\*\*

SYNAGOGUE RENOVATION - SIXTH REPORT

By the time that this edition of the Recorder reaches you, the Yom Tovim, and the Civic Service will be over, and most Congregants will have seen for themselves the progress to date. For those of you who have been unable to do so, decoration to the Synagogue has been completed, and the overall impression is one of freshness. In particular, the Ark, where all the gold work has been restored, looks very impressive. We sincerely hope that you WON'T take our word for it, but come and see for yourselves, particularly on a Friday night, or a Saturday morning if you can manage it.

The 'Julius Burke' Screen has been erected, and has to be painted. Julius will be remembered in the future as the "Draught Excluder" !!

More work has to be done on the Kitchen after the Yom Tovim, this and one or two other jobs had to be put back, in order first to put the Synagogue House in good order to receive our new Caretakers, and to have the Synagogue ready in time for Rosh Hashona and Yom Kippur, as well as the Civic Service.

Those of you present at the Extraordinary General Meeting, will be aware of our next priority- Heating. It is not proposed to enlarge upon this in this report, other than to say that this work is partially under way.

A very special vote of thanks is extended to Mr. Pinsker, who slipped into Shool very quietly, and at his own expense, personally provided the material, and himself, upholstered in red leatherette, the "Visitors Bench" inside the entrance of the Synagogue. We can tell you that he made a very fine job of it. Mr. Pinsker has also offered to assist us with the re-covering of all the Synagogue seating, something we would like to have done if funds are forthcoming.

Thanks are also again due to Henry Springer, who, with a number of gallant lady volunteers, acting as "Mrs. Mops", gave a considerable amount of their time and energy (and their own "tools" and materials), thoroughly to clean and polish the whole Synagogue after the decorators had finished.

Congratulations to our Caretakers, Mr. & Mrs. Smith, who are both keen gardeners, for beautifying the patch at the Synagogue entrance, by removing the privet and planting flowers. It is also their intention, we understand, to replant the Kitchen garden.



At this stage, it would be as well to point out that the work undertaken by your Committee is a "face lift", to make the buildings habitable, clean, as dry as we can get it, and WARM. As the saying goes; "The impossible we can do - Miracles take a little longer". What is meant by this, is that it will be essential, if the standards are to be kept, to watch things closely, and check problems as they arise with regular maintenance. To this end, your Committee will do all in their power to maintain a "Building Fund", and as we stated in our terms of reference, a "Re-building Fund".

It is intended at a future date, to publish in the Recorder, an itemised account of all expenditure, so that both the "seen" and "unseen" work carried out, will be made quite clear. When this is presented, we are sure that you will tip your hats to your young Building Contractor, Joe Large, who has worked long and hard at a near loss on your behalf.

Finally, another "thank you" to all contributors to the Fund. We can announce that to date, the magnificent sum of £2,332. has been raised. We would like to do more, we CAN do more IF you want us to. A contribution, as well as being a "vote of confidence" in your Sub-Committee, is also a vote of confidence in yourselves, and in the survival of the Bristol Newbrew Community. We couldn't have STARTED without you, and we can't go ON unless you want us to.

Once again we say, as we said at the beginning, practical help, expert advice, and moral support, are as welcome as cash. If you have something to contribute, whether it be time, material, or expertise, please come forward.

We are pleased to say that as a result of Rev. Modell's enthusiasm in showing some visiting Americans over the Synagogue premises, two donations to the Restoration Fund were received, one of 10 dollars and one of £3. We are most grateful.

We also report that Frank Cohen has made a donation to the Fund in memory of his Father, Newman Cohen.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### CHAIRS FOR HALL FUND

It is obvious that the old wooden chairs in the Communal Hall are overdue for replacement. The amount required cannot at this time be spared from the General Building Fund, so a special effort is being made in this matter. Chairs are £2. each.

The New Inspiration has raised £25. at a recent function, the Seymours have pledged an amount in commemoration of their Silver Wedding Anniversary and we have received donations of "Birthday money" from Michele Seymour of £2. and Oliver Cahn £2. Any youngsters who would like to follow suit and "Buy a chair", please join in.

\*\*\*\*\*

Apropos a recent article concerning a Communal Library, I am delighted to announce that Mr. Alex Shlesinger B.A., has volunteered to undertake this task. In point of fact, he has gone a great deal further. Not only is he willing to undertake the safe keeping, cataloguing and evaluation of existing books, and the collection of any books offered, but he has further suggested that we should have a Communal "Archive". (After all why not? we ARE a Historic Community). In this respect, Alex would be pleased to receive ANYTHING of Jewish interest, Books, and Magazines, Pamphlets or Leaflets, Old correspondence pertaining to the Community, particularly in relation to early Ministers. Old Minute Books would be of special interest, as well as photographs and old newspaper articles. Look in the attic, under the bed, and in that old trunk and see what you can find. Telephone 31142 if you have anything to offer. If necessary, collection can be arranged.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Talmud Torah commenced session on Sunday, September 5th. The classes are held from 10.00a.m. until 12.45. You may think that this is too long a session for the children, but in fact it is really insufficient time. In other Jewish communities the children attend Talmud Torah Classes on Sunday mornings from 10.30.a.m. until 12.30.p.m. AND on at least three afternoons a week after school from 4.30.p.m. until 6.00.p.m. In addition during school holidays, many of them even have their classes in the mornings from 10.30 until 12.00.

In Bristol there is of course, the problem that it is inconvenient for everyone to bring their children to classes other than a Sunday morning, and it is for this reason that the Talmud Torah is restricted to a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  hour session once a week. Too many Jewish children today reach their teens without any knowledge of Judaism, and at a later time embarrassment due to this unnecessary ignorance can drive them completely away from even the mildest form of Judaism.

It is, therefore, the duty of every Jewish parent to ensure that their children attend Talmud Torah Classes on Sunday mornings, and to encourage them at all times with their studies at these classes. Just as important as the Talmud Torah are Synagogue services. Besides just seeing what the inside of a Synagogue looks like, the children could participate, if enough would attend Sabbath morning services, in a separate children's service where they could put into practice some of their learning, and learn a little more. Apart from the religious aspect, it would also provide another opportunity for the children to mix with other Jewish children - a point which is frequently discussed.

Children whose attendance at Talmud Torah is erratic will only suffer themselves, since other children cannot be held up for the sake of a few individuals. It is time that the Talmud Torah was taken seriously by parents, and not regarded as purely an opportunity of getting rid of the children for a morning so the parents can have a peaceful morning at home. Alternatively, many parents attach too little importance to the Talmud Torah to the extent that if the child has school exams and has work to do for them, then he needn't attend classes, but that child will without doubt, spend the bulk of his time watching T.V. or playing with his friends and spend little or no time at all working for the school exams.

Now is the time to change this ridiculous attitude and to start encouraging the children to learn about their religion for their own good.

We ask that the parents ensure that their children attend Talmud Torah classes on Sunday mornings as regularly as possible and in any event of absence should send with the child a note to account for the absence. This year we will be giving homework to the children, most likely in the form of reading practice lasting at most 30 minutes per week, and it is imperative that the parents assist the children with this and give them as much encouragement as possible.

We look forward to your fullest co-operation.

Rev. Modell  
I. Kishner  
A. Tobias

BRISTOL JEWISH WOMEN'S GUILD

The Annual General Meeting took place at the Synagogue Hall on Monday evening, September 6th.

The President, Mrs. Sacof, in her opening address, congratulated the Chairman, officers and committee, on a very successful year's work, also all the members for their loyal co-operation.

Mrs. Sacof referred to the excellent progress made in connection with the Synagogue Restoration, and how much we owe to some of the younger members of the community for all the hard work put in by them.

Mrs. Sacof also spoke about the good name the Bristol Hebrew Congregation has outside the community, and how very proud we all are to have one of its active members, Alderman Mrs. Helen Bloom, as Bristol's first Jewish Lord Mayor.

The Chairman, Mrs. Dembo, expressed her warm appreciation to all her officers and committee, thanking also the members, for their loyal support and good attendances throughout the year. Mrs. Dembo stated that she had been very encouraged by the year's excellent financial results, and hoped that the members would continue to show the same enthusiasm during the coming year, when we look forward to holding many interesting meetings.

The Secretary, Mrs. Culank, reported on the year's activities, after which the Treasurer, Mrs. Smith, presented the Balance Sheet.

Cardiff Jewish Home for the Aged	£40.00
Jewish Blind Society	5.00
Bristol Old People's Welfare	2.00
Save the Children Fund	2.00
Union of Jewish Women	1.00
Bristol Hospital Fund	1.00

In addition, an amount of £150.00 is being donated to the Synagogue Building Fund, earmarked specially for the purchase of new Kitchen equipment; also the sum of £10.00 for embroidery etc. for the Ark curtains.

The following Officers and Committee were elected:-

President	Mrs. Sacof
Vice-Presidents	Mrs. G. Roydon Mrs. J. Dysch Mrs. B. Glick



Secretary	Mrs. C. Culank
Treasurer	Mrs. R. Smith
Asst. Treasurer	Mrs. D. Rosenberg
Committee	Mrs. M. Roberts
	Mrs. G. Seymour
	Mrs. M. Gee
	Mrs. M. Goldman
	Mrs. R. Curwen
	Mrs. I. Springer

\*\*\*\*\*

Mrs. Gill Ornstein, assisted by Mrs. Michelle Blackstein, and the Habonim group, has kindly offered to organise the arrangements and decoration of the Succah for the forthcoming Festival of Succoth, commencing on Sunday evening, October 3rd, and will welcome contributions of cash, cakes or fruit.

The opening meeting for the new season will take place on Monday evening, October 18th, at the Synagogue Hall. We shall look forward to seeing all our members, also welcoming new members.

---C. Culank  
(Hon. Sec)

\*\*\*\*\*

#### BRISTOL W.I.E.O. GROUP

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Synagogue Hall on Tuesday, 14th September. The Chairman, Mrs. Curwen, in her opening report, thanked all members who had given their help during the year. Special thanks went to Mrs. H. Silverman, Mrs. Springer and Mrs. Smith for the Luncheon they gave in the Succah. Mrs. Greenbaum for the most enjoyable Garden Party held at her home. To Mrs. Seymour, Mr. & Mrs. Springer and Mr. Gee, who worked so hard for the success of the Market Stall. Also congratulations to the two Captains of Women's Week. Mrs. S. Silverman and Mrs. Springer for their wonderful effort in raising £116. Finally, grateful thanks to Mrs. Kushner and Mrs. Springer for organising the very successful Annual Dinner & Dance.

The Chairman then announced the retirement of the longest serving officer, Mrs. Lever, from office as Treasurer, and remarked how we are all indebted to Kate. Grateful thanks and admiration were conveyed to Mrs. Lever and a presentation of flowers was made.

The Following Officers & Committee were elected:-

Election of Officers

Chairman	Mrs. R. Curwen
Treasurer	Mrs. G. Ornstein
Joint Cultural Chairman	Mrs. M. Kushner Mrs. M. Goldman
Secretary	Mrs. S. Hart

Committee

Mrs. B. Burke  
Mrs. H. Dembo  
Mrs. H. Silverman  
Mrs. M. Blackstein  
Mrs. S. Silverman

AUTUMN JUMBLE SALE

Our Jumble Sale this Autumn will be held on Wednesday, 20th October. Please help all you can in order for us to reach the desired result. Jumble may be left at the Synagogue House, or will be collected by a W.I.Z.O. member on request.

The next Meeting will be an Evening Meeting and discussion on Tuesday, 26th October at 77, Parry's Lane, Bristol, 9. Our hostess will be Mrs. Curwen. Subject "Heroic Women".

Shelagh Hart  
Hon. Sec.

\*\*\*\*\*

Copy of the Report sent to the Jewish Chronicle

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1971

History was made this day in the Bristol Hebrew Congregation when the Members celebrated the Centenary of the consecration of their Synagogue in Park Row.

The Lord Mayor of Bristol, Ald. Mrs. Helen Bloom, Bristol's first Jewish Lord Mayor attended, accompanied by her husband and Consort, Mr. Sydney Bloom (Synagogue Vice-President), the Sheriff and over 100 Aldermen and Councillors in their colourful robes.

The service was conducted by the Minister the Rev. M. Modell, and the guest preacher the Rev. S. Gold of Birmingham who paid tribute to Ald. Bloom's long and distinguished career, and her devotion to the service of her fellow citizens - She had brought honour to Bristol.

At the conclusion of the service the Lord Mayor unveiled a Centenary Commemoration plaque in the Synagogue.

Members of the Congregation then attended a private reception at the Council House, College Green given by the Lord Mayor and her Consort - when the President of the Bristol Hebrew Congregation, Mr. Colin Berkovitch presented an inscribed Menorah to the City of Bristol from the Bristol Jewish Community - this was an exact replica of the one presented to the State of Israel by the British Government.

In view of the importance of this years celebrations the restoration and redecoration of the Synagogue buildings was undertaken.

Although Bristol is not a rich Community, a small but enthusiastic sub-committee raised the necessary funds by private donations from members past and present.

\*\*\*\*\*

This was a day that will live forever in the memory of those of us who were privileged to be present, and there were I am sure, few without a lump in their throats when our own Helen Bloom - Bristol's first Jewish Lord Mayor, unveiled a plaque with the following inscription:-

BRISTOL HEBREW CONGREGATION 1871 September, 1971

This plaque was unveiled to commemorate the centenary of this Synagogue by the Lord Mayor of Bristol Alderman Mrs. Helen Bloom.

The first Jewish Lord Mayor of Bristol

26th September, 1971

7th TISHRI. 5732

The day is gone, but the plaque remains forever on the wall of the Synagogue, and Helen Bloom's name, already inscribed on the wall of the Conference Hall of the Council House, with the names of all the distinguished Lord Mayors of the City since the year 1216, will go down in the annals of the history of Bristol - We are proud indeed of our First Citizen.

On this momentous occasion it was a great joy to see the Synagogue and its surroundings looking so beautiful, and both Ernie and I would like to take this opportunity of paying tribute to the devoted few who worked unceasingly to turn a tired old Shool into a place of worship of which we can be proud.

I am sure that everyone will want to join us in expressing to them our deepest thanks and appreciation. What a wonderful thing it would be if these pleasant surroundings brought with them an upsurge of interest in the life of the Shool - then their work will indeed have been worthwhile!

Muriel Morris.

\*\*\*\*\*